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made in the latest style and of good material. Repairlug prountly attented to. Give me a call. Dec. 9, 1875-ly.] C. LEWIS WATERS.

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PREPARE FOR DEATH.

TO TAKE PLACE AT ANY MINUTE.

Mr. Richard A. Proctor writes to the London Echo as follows: "We have within the last fortnight had new evidence in mers be it remarked) by Sir W. Thomson, total eclipse. that the fragments of destroyed planets | Now, a point to which I would call of that life which is now so abundant on disturbances parts of our sun's surface show her surface, so she, in her turn undergoing | the lines of hydrogen bright instead of dark, destruction will be sent in fragments which means that the flames of hydrogen through space, scattering about the germs over those parts of the sun are hotter than Farms, Timber Lands and Town Lots | solar flames, but even have reached the low- | hundred times his usual lustre, (the conas the probable cause of such danger.

> like our own, which has met with some easy telescope distance, such catastrophes great catastrophe, whose cause we cannot occur only ten or twelve times per century." at present determine, but whose real nature is unmistakable. Our sun is one among hundreds of millions, each of which is probasly, like it, the centre of a scheme of circling worlds. Each sun is rushing along through space with its train of worlds, each bearing, perhaps, like our earth, its living freight, or, more probably, each, at some time or other of its existence, becoming habitable for a longer or shorter period. Thus the suns may be comparted to engines, each drawing along its well-freighted train. Accidents among these celestial engines seem fortunately to be rare. A few among the suns appear suddenly, (that is in the course of a hundred years, which in celestial chronometry amounts to a mere instant,) to have lost a large part of their energy, as though the supply of fuel had somehow run short. Mishaps of that kind have not attracted much attention, though manifestly it would be a serious matter of our own sun were suddenly to loose three-fourths of its heat, and as happened with the middle star of the Plow, or ninety-nine hundredths, as has happened with the once Eta, in the keel of the star-ship Argo. But when we hear of an accident of the contrary kind-a sun suddenly blazing out with more than a hundred times its usual [May 16, 1872. | meant to work steadily for the train, have blazed forth to its destruction-we are impressed with the thought that this may possibly one day happen with our sun. The circumstances are very curious, and though they do not show clearly whether we are or are not expossed to the same

they are sufficiently suggestive. On Nov. 24th, quite early in the even- succeed it destroys us.

ing, Professor Schmidt, the well-known director of the Athens Observatory, ob-THE GREAT DANGER TO WHICH WE ARE served a star of the first magnitude in a EXPOSED-THE SUN IN FLAMES-OLD part of the constellation of the Swan, SOL TO BLAZE UP AND SCORCH THE where no such star should be. At mid-INHABITANTS OF THIS WORLD TO A night the new star's light was seen to be of CINDER-THIS TERBIBLE CATASROPHE a remarkably yellow color. The news was, of course, spread about among the chiefs of the principal observatories, and as soon as clear weather permitted, the new comet was submitted to the searching scrutiny of the spectroscope. Unfortunthe star depths of the danger to which our ately, it had already dwindled down to the own sun, and we along with it, would seem fifth magnitude by Dec. 3d, when first it to be exposed. There are some astronomical | was thus examined, and its light had besubjects of inquiry which, though they come greenish, almost blue. It was not relate to bodies inconcervably remote, coa- until Dec. 5th, that really satisfactory cern us inhabitants of earth very nearly, observations were made. Then M. Cornu It is, for instance, a question of considera- obtained the following very curious results: ble interest to us whether the evidence we The light of the stars showed the usual have about the sun suggests or not the rainbow-tinted streak crossed by dark lines. probability that the orb—the fire, light, which forms the spectrum of a star or sun, and life of our system-is gradually parting | but on that rainbow-tiated streak, as on a with its energies, in such sort that our dark background, there was seen the bright descendants will be less thoroughly warmed lights of hydrogen, a bright line belonging and lighted than we are ourselves. It is a to magnesium (in the state of glowing question of interest again whether there is vapor), and two other bright lines, one of any truth in such a theory as was once which seemed to be identical with a bright thrown out (to the amazement of astrono- line shown by our sun's corona during a

might be the vehicles by which the seeds special attention is, that all the elements of of life are carried to new worlds, and that | the cata-trophe, if one may so speak, which our earth, visited in remote ages by such has befallen the remote sun in the Swan fragments was thus supplied with the germs | exist in our own sun. At times of marked of life for the benefit of other words as yet | the glowing surface of the sun there. We unpeopled. Another question of very great | have all heard, again, how Tadchini and interest was that started by Sir Isaac New- Secchi, in Italy, attributed some exceptown, in the well-known suggestion that tionally hot weather we had a few years should a comet fall upon the sun there ago to outbursts of glowing magnesium. would be a tremendous outburst of solar | And, lastly, our sun is certainly well supheat, whereby this earth and all the other plied with that element, whatever it is worlds which circle round the sun could be | which gives the bright line of his corona destroyed, or, at least, all life caused to during eclipses, for we now know that the perish from their surface. This idea has whole of the streaked and radiated corona not, indeed, of late received much favor, occupying a region twenty times greater because astronomers, noting the small effects | than the globe of the sun (which itself produced by comets upon even the interior exceeds our earth 1,250,000 times in members of the solar system, such as the volume) belongs to the sun. Again, moons of Jupiter, have come to regard though the sun has shone steadily for comets as bedies of very little weight, whose | thousands of years, yet so far as can be material, therefore, falling upon the sun, judged, the stars which, like the one in could produce but insignificant fires. More- the Swan, have burst out suddenly blossomover, we have learned to consider the ing into flames of hydrogen, within which probability of the downfall of a comet upon the star's heart-core glows with many hunthe sun as exceedingly small. We know | dred times its former heat, have also been that among those whose paths have been for ages shining steadily amid the star properly determined during the past few depths. We know that the one which years, only two have made a very near ap- blazed out ten years ago in the Northern proach to the sun-though by a strange erown was one of Argelander's list, a star coincidence, one of these was the first ever of the tenth magnitude, and that, after wealth with on the Newtonian principles- glowing with 800 times its former brightviz., Newton's own comet of the year 1860. ness for a few days, it has resumed that That one approached the sun within less feebler lustre. We have every reason that than the sixth of its diameter, and its very analogy can furnish for believing that the mucleus must have swept the summits of new star, which was not in Argelander's the red flames which we now know to ex- list simply escaped record by him on acist all round the sun we see. The other | count of its faintness. It is now fast losing was the comet of 1843, which, on the 27th | its suddenly-acquired lustre, and is already of February of that year, was within 60, invisible to the naked eye. It appears, 600 miles of the sun's surface; so that the | therefore, that there is nothing in the longbulk of its coma or hair must have swept continued steadfastness of our sun as a over the sun, and the outermost parts of source of light to assure us that he, too, its nucleus must not only have met the may not suddenly blaze forth with many lying bed of flame seen during solar eclipses, flagration being originated, perchance, by and called the sierra. Still, these two some comet unfortunately too directly tocomets only, among all these of the last two | wards him). Though he would probably hundred years, have made a very near ap- cool down again to his present condition proach to the sun, and, as no mischief has in a few weeks, no terrestial observers followed, astronomers are encouraged to would be alive at any rate, to note the the belief that whatevery danger we may fact, though the whole series of events have to fear from changes in our sun's might afford subject of interesting specucondition, comets are scarcely to be regarded | lation to to the inhabitants of worlds circling around Sirius of Arcturus. Fortun-But the news just received from the star ately, we may legitimately reason that the depths concerns us more nearly. It tells risk is small, seeing that among the milus of a sun, doubtless in general respects lions of suns which surround ours, within

# An Army of Water Rats.

Dr. Van Der Hork, the German travler to the Artic, says: On one occasion we had a curious adventure. While crossing a lacustrine part of the river called Kjoalmejuare, in the early part of the knight we were suddenly surrounded by swarms of recently invented a new way for mining lemming (Myodestorqustus), an animal like the mountain rat. They swarmed around the boat and attempted to clamber into it, so that it was with the greatest difficulty we could keep the fierce little creatures from boarding us by beating about with the oars, at which they would set up sharp, shrill ted the ends of silver copper wires. A hole screams similar to those of the muskrat. After some time we succeeded in passing them. These little animals come unexpectedly down from the mountains-no one knowing exactly whence-and appear in millions, swarming over the whole country, eating up almost everything that comes in their way. Neither river nor lake seems to deter them, both of which they swim blazing, but now scarcely visible, orb called with ease, usually keeping in their destructive path until reaching the open sea, which they vainly endeavor to cross, never swerving from the direction once taken until they sink exhausted beneath the waves. Thus perish countless numbers. They commit great ravages, and are as dreaded in the North as the locusts are in Egypt. Years, however, elapse between their reappearance, or until they suddenly descend from their rocky retreats. The Lapps tell us that they rain from the sky, many of them stating that they have actually seen

COUNTERFEIT COINS.

THE COMPOSITION OF THE LATEST SPUR IOUS SILVER MONEY-SPECIMENS OF DEBASED GOLD PIECES AT THE SUB

The N. Y. Times of the 13th inst., contains the following: heard recently of the inconvenient and un- knew he had it in him, and all that he want- in lots more, ever so much worse than that comfortable abundance of counterfeit silver ed was the field, and he would make his if I'd had room. Hecoins in circulation. Dining-saloon keep- own opportunities. He worked on the "Do you knew," said the chief, that ers, car conductors, the corner grocery man, Hank-Eye one day, and we do not know Hon. George J. Barnwell owns more of and even the usually careless bar-keeper, what has become of him after that, but we this town than he can see, and is a bank have all become suspicious, and will not are sorry he is gone. There was so much director, and president of heaven knows even accept without scrutiny the fairest and life and sunlight about the office during his how many business associations, a pillar of most genuine-looking pieces of silver To brief stay. He hadn't been on the street the church, and a prop of society? Don't ring a coin does not appear to be a sufficient an hour before he came rushing back into you know that you ain't expected to pubtest to these careful worthies, for they have the office, radiant with enthusiasm and a lish every bit of gossip you hear about found out that deciet has been so ingenious whole hat full of fights in his note book. people? that the true ring has been obtained in Then he dashed out and went around the "Ain't!" echoed the young man; "what's tor refuses to "punch in the presence of the edged, lavender scented scandal cass. He tell him of it?" passenger" until he is convinced beyond a started off to dinner, but came dashing The chief made no reply, and the boys doubt that the quarter or half dollar he back to write up a runaway, an apopleptic scattered to their work. A casual watch presents is really a good thing to make fit, a small robbery, and a street ear colli- was kept on the door of the private office, change for. Inquiry was made yesterday sion he had encountered on the way. We and late in the afternoon it opened, and at the Sub-Treasury in this city as to the never saw such a man to gather up news. the chief came out. He was alone. There quality and quantity of counterfeits known | He could hardly find time to cat his meals, | was dyspeptic look about his eyes, like a to be in circulation. Mr. J. F. Tandy, on account of the constant rush of items. man who had eaten too much; and nobody chief coin detector, who has held his post- And when he got to writing them up in the ever saw the new reporter or heard anytion for many years, and is now one of the evening, he had to lock the door to keep thing of him again. But we often miss him most competent judges of coin in the coun- new ones from rushing in on him. We and when the town is quiet and the aftertry, was referred to for information. Mr. | said : Tandy says that there are a great many spurious coins in actual circulation, the ingenuity of counterfeiters who formerly studied to produce imitations of paper cur- with their meagre note books, complaining rency having evidently been turned to the that the town was awful dry, and fairly manufacture of mental tokens. A great bursting with envy. We had to run a many good coins have been mistaken for supplement to get all the young fellow's city bad ones owing to the imperfect work done | news in.

is not of sufficient fineness to make such a heard the chief say : excellent by Mr. Tandy. In weight they blunders as that?"

Most of the counterfeit coins are dated office library hasn't got a reliable book of "I'm trying to be a Christian, and set a back, the gleam of new silver being very referuce in it?" difficult to imitate. Even with experts the | There was a pause, and then the chief lick you in just two minutes!" difficulty of detecting these light coins | resumed : among piles of silver of thousands of dollars is acknowledged to be very great. The Throopledyke, whose marriage to Miss and Burr backslid at once, and sent down counterfeits are evidently not all made by Minerva Possonby you notice very neatly, for a pint of stimulant. the same persons, as they are by no means and then append the outrageous statement of uniform excellence of workmanship. A | that the reverend gentleman has a wife and number of debased gold coins were shown | nine children in Indiana, and it is thought that had recently been detected. A \$20 piece, with an exterior fair to look upon, and apparently as "good as gold," was pronounced a vexatious fraud, worth but \$6. It had been carefully split, hollowed out, and filled with plantinum. When submit- I got that all straight. That's true as back. On receiving in return \$3 and a ted to the scale test it weighed all that the law demanded. Its spuriousness had been detected by the eye of an experienced handler of coin, and its "true inwardnesss" exposed by a slight chipping of the edges, where the parts had been pressed together. A quarter-eagle that had come from the Bank of England had been served in the

same way, and when broken it was found to be packed with charges of plantinum deftly fitted to the cavity made by the abstruction of the gold, its edges carefully remilled, and it had undoubtedly changed repeatedly, before its wickedness had been detected. A California counterfeiter has gold that may have proved more profitable than hunting for nuggets in the mountain streams, although it can hardly be as comfortable a means of securing a livelihood. From San Francisco was shown a \$20 piece, bent and broken, from which projechad been made in the middle edge of the coin, and from this central opening branched several galleries, reaching almost across the inside of the coin. The gold had been abstracted, and its place filled up by copper

wire. The weight of the coin was reduced, and by the use of scales this defect could have been detected at once. But apparently the coin was good, and the only ready eye of an expert could catch the marks of tampering on the edge, or understand the measure of the raised lines on the surface, where the drill had approached too near

the edge and the wire had crowded the gold

when it was driven into the aperture.

The paternal author of an heiress was moments' conversation in private, and began: "I was requested to see you, sir, by your lovely daughter. Our attachment-" "Young man," interrupted the parent, that mixed up with some other item." briskly, "I don't know what that girl of "And then look here," continued the mine is about. Your are the fourth gntle- chief, "you take occasion to say, in an en-

THE NEW REPORTER.

He was a bright looking young man, with socks once a week. Nowunexecptionably good clothes, and a bright eager way with him that inclined the chief to take him in and let him see what he

man is worth a million dollars a week."

And the rest of the boys stood around town once more.—Burlington Hawkeye:

coins. Submitted to the test of the scale, man, "how was I to know how he spelled when his foot struck one of the outside the genuine coin weighed 192.9 grains; his name? He's a stranger to me. Be- form, which was leaning against a leg of the the counterfeit, 142 grains. The test of sides, I did my best to get it right. I look- stone, ready to be lifted up, and over it the crucible showed the spurious coin to be ed all through Zell,s Encyclopædia and in went, making half a bushel of pi, Burr composed of antimony, lead, and zine, which | Webster's Dictionary, and couldn't find | looked at the ruin wrought, thought of the really makes a fine imitation of a well-made any such name anywhere. How's any man two weeks of overwork, and commenced going to get along without mistakes if the taking off his coat, saying:

he has one or two more somewhere in Wis-

consin. Why -"Well, that's so" broke in the new man; me so down at the Union depot yesterday.

"Who was the man?"

and it looked too fresh to ask his name." "How did he know Mr. Throopledyke?"

"He didn't know him; he just told me about a preacher he knew that had a wife and nine children in Indiana, and I asked him to describe him, and his description hit old Throopledyke to a T. O, it's him, I the ticket, and looking sharply at the offi-

painful pause, during which the boys held | nine. their breath, "here is an item stating that Christopher K. Roflan, a Bogus Hollow sneak thief, knocked a child down near the railroad crossing and stole a tin bucket, ten | money from Ogdensburg that old Grimes' cents and a milk ticket from her. This is pulse has finally ceased to beat. atrocious. It is terrible.'

"Why," asked the new man, "wasn't that Roffan.

Men's Christian Association, and a citizen few into his basket, she asked : of the highest repute. Now where did you | "What is your name, my son?"

get that item?" "Well, the item is all right, but I wasn't sure of the name; but I told a hackman about it, and asked him if he knew who the first man was, and he said he guessed it ago?" must be old Roflan, and I found the full

name in the Directory." The boys could hear the chief sigh clear through the door.

"Then," he continued, "what made you say that old Mrs. Malayers committed suicide while in a state of despondency, bro't on by excessive use of intoxicating liquor ?" | the doctrine, and expatiated largely on its "Well, didn't she?"

approached by a youth who requested a few | the counting room now, and is President of | self to have been before you were K?" "I the Women's Temperance League."

a tone of amazement. "I must have got rejoined his friend, "you have not altered

when we fail, our pride supports; when we to the others, and I give it to you; God \$37.15 at Sugerby's, that has been run- killed by sleigh shafts piercing their breasts. ning nearly two years; and that he blows Loss \$2,500.

his nose with his fingers, and picks his teeth with his-fork, and only changes his

"Well, by George," shouted the new man "that's the truth. Now, I'm willing to own up when I'm wrong, but, by gun, you can't corner me on that item. That's could do. He felt, the young man said, the solemn truth, and I got it all straight. that he was born to be a reportor, like A girl that worked in his family four years A great many complaints have been Horace Greeley and Mr. Bennett. He told me all about it, and I could have put

some of the basest counterfeits. All silver block, and came tearing up the back stairs the paper for then? What of it anyhow? coins are eyed "with care," and the conductike a house a-fire with a first-class, gilt- Is old Barnwell mad about it? Did anybody

noons are long, and there are no election "The office has got a treasure. That news to stir the fever of our blood, we wish that he would come back and shake up the

#### Spoiled His Piety.

Horace Greeley used to affirm that newspaper men were the most patient people, as at some of the mints in the haste to supply | The next morning the chief had a very | a class, on earth; and he was not far from the demand made when the paper currency impressive interview with the new reporter. right, though there are times when patience was withdrawn. Many coins are found The business office was filled with a mis- ceases to be a virtue with the most endurwith the edges between the milled rim and cellaneous crowd of citizens, and two or ing. Nearly everybody in Michigan knows the outer ring on the face beveled off as if three policemen, and a few ladies. The Burr, who used to start a newspaper about by machinery. This appearance is doubt- boys leaned up against the door of the once a month the year round, generally less caused in many instances by a careful private office to hear how much salary the bringing them out in Grand Rapids, but paring of the coin for the small amount of new man was going to get, and if he would some times making a flying trip to other silver obtained, but the quality of the silver accept an interest in the paper. They points. Burr could stand to be told that he lied about circulation, was on the fence practice a very lucrative one. The coun- "And this long item about Jerome C. as a politician, and that he didn't know anyterfeiters have devoted themselves almost Plastonburg. That is a paid notice, as you thing about publishing a paper; and when exclusively to the production of imitations were told: it is worth \$65, and you have men threatened to sue or thrash him, he of half-dollars and quarter-dollars. No spelled his name—the vital part of the no only smild a sad smile and wished that false dimes that were at all likely to deceive tice-wrong every time. Once you have mankind wouldn't get excited. During a have yet been seen. Several specimens of called him James L. Longherty, one Jabez religious revival in Grand Rapids, Burr was the half-dollars found at the Sub-Treasury | O'Philiarity, and in all other places Jacob | converted, and it frequently happend that were shown. In appearance they were D. Plathersburg. What on earth possess- religious people called at his office to talk very good, the impression being considered ed you to make such absurd and injurious with him. One day a minister came in, and, after talking a while, he proposed were light, when compared with genuine "Well, good land!" exclaimed the young prayer. He was in the act of kneeling,

> good example, but rat my buttons if I can't The clergyman backed down stairs in no

"And here is this item about Rev. Mr. time, dodging the lye brush on the way,

# The Forty Thieves.

An inebriated Jerseyman in New York ed by flaming posters advertising the play of "The Forty Thieves" at Niblo's, went to "I tell you he has; a man on a train told | the box office and called for a ticket-at the same time throwing down a \$5 greenticket (he had expected to pay about fifty cents), the astonished countryman, looking "I don't know; he was a stranger to me, first at the money and then at the ticket, "H-h-how much d'yer ask to (hie)

see these Forty Thieves? The ticket seller informed him that the

price was \$2. "Well," said the Jerseyman, thowing back

cial, "you may k-k-keep yer ticket-I "Then,' continued the chief, after a very don't care about seeing the other thirty-

# Poor Old Grimes.

At last we have an irrefragable testi-

A few mornings since, when the thermometer was nearly played out, a ragged little beggar stopped at Judge J's, and-"No." said the chief, with some asperity | plaintively suggested victuals. As the be-"Mr. Roflan is President of the Young | nevolent lady of the house was emptying a

"My name is Grimes."

"Is your father living?" "Yes, marm."

"I thought Old Grimes was dead long

ing what a good soul the lady was.

"That was my grandpa." And the youngster waddled off, think-

A party met at a public table, and the conversation turned on the subject of transmigration. Mr. K. was a firm believer in points. He was interrupted by a gentle-"Didn't she? She is alive and down in man with, "K., what do you suppose yourdo not know," replied K : "I might have "Well, well, well," said the new man in been a pig, for aught I know." "Well,"

much—only get upon your hind legs." Two valuable trotting horses collided To know a man, observe how he wins man who has approached me this morning tirely uncalled-for manner, that Hon. during a trotting carnival at Poughkeepsie, worlds circling round those remote suns, his object rather than how he looses it; for on the subject. I have given my consent George J. Barnwell owes a grocery bill of N. Y., on Saturday last, and both were